

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAPE T 00448 281054Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
EUR-12 /075 W

-----281057Z 006806 /12

O 281030Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5869

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAPE TOWN 0448

FOR BALTIMORE FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PFOR SF

SUBJ: STEVE BIKO TRIAL

1. I HAVE BEEN TOUCH WITH WILFRED COOPER WHO IS
DEFENDING STEVE BIKO AND HE TELLS ME THE TRIAL WILL OPEN
ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30 IN EAST LONDON. COOPER HAS
FURNISHED CHARGE SHEET WHICH I AM SENDING YOU BY SEPARATE
CABLE. ACCORDING TO COOPER, STATE IS PLANNING TO MODIFY
CHARGES BUT HE IS NOT SURE OF NATURE OF THESE.

2. COOPER SAID HE SAW BILKO LAST WEEK. HE IS WELL AND IN
GOOD SPIRITS. HE NOTED THAT BIKO IS BEING HELD IN ONE
OF THE WORST DETENTION CENTERS IN EAST LONDON BUT NOT IN
SOLITARY CONFINEMENT. THIS WAS COOPER'S FIRST ASSOCIATION
WITH BIKO AND HE WAS IMPRESSED BY HIS INTELLIGENCE,
DIGNITY AND SELF ASSURANCE.

3. I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR ARRANGING YOUR SCHEDULE TO
BE ON HAND IN EAST LONDON FOR THE OPENING OF THE
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BIKO TRIAL. COOPER SAID HE WAS NOT SURE HOW LONG
IT WILL LAST SINCE HE DOES NOT KNOW NATURE OF THE NEW
CHARGES AND HAS NO IDEA WHAT EVIDENCE THE STATE
ATTORNEYS WILL PRESENT. IF IT RUNS BEYOND THREE OR
FOUR DAYS, LET'S CONFER ON WHETHER YOU SHOULD STAY.
KEEP IN DISCREET TOUCH WITH COOPER WHO SAID HE WOULD
BE PLEASED TO TALK WITH YOU AS TRIAL PROCEEDS. HE

WILL BE STAYING AT THE KINGS HOTEL IN EAST LONDON AND
YOU SHOULD CONFINE YOUR CONTACTS WITH HIM TO THAT
LOCALE. DONALD WOODS WILL BE FOLLOWING THE TRIAL
CLOSELY AND YOU MAY FIND IT USEFUL TO ESTABLISH
CONTACT WITH HIM.BOWDLER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRIALS, PRISONERS WELFARE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION AF
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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TAGS: PINT, PFOR, SF, (BIKO, STEVE), (COOPER, WILFRED)
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